

Chelaka Derahka means that whosoever disobeys these orders shall be considered guilty of treason.

Whoever disobeys the aforesaid rules is liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

M. L.

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF A RHODODENDRON IN SINGAPORE.

In January of this year, while walking near the bungalow on the top of Bukit Timah with Lieutenant KELSALL, I observed in the upper branches of a lofty Dipterocarpous tree, probably a species of *Shorea*, an epiphytic plant with red flowers. On going to the foot of the tree we picked up several fallen blossoms, from which it was evident that the plant was a species of *Rhododendron*, and that, one not known to occur in the Malay Peninsula. The tree was about 150 feet high, and about 6 feet through, without a branch for fully 80 feet, so that it was by no means easy to reach it. The following plan was then adopted. A number of large spike nails were driven into the tree, and a pole lashed to them so as to form a ladder, for about a quarter of a distance. A Malay then ascended this with a further supply of nails, and a pulley block being fixed to the tree another pole was hauled up and made fast to the lower one. This was done again and again till the lowest branch was reached, and eventually the plant was lowered to the ground. There were two plants on the tree, which were transferred to the Botanic Gardens, where one remained a long time in flower. The plant is an exceedingly beautiful one, with clusters of nodding flowers about two inches long, of a beautiful crimson-red colour. It appears to be identical with one figured in the Botanical Magazine under the name of *Rhododendron javanicum* var. *tubiflorum* (Tab. 9850), differing only in the colour, which in the picture is a very dull red. The plant from which this drawing was made was ob-

tained by Mr. CURTIS in Solok in Sumatra, and sent home to Mr. VEITCH, who cultivated it in England. It seems, to me however, that this so-called variety is specifically quite distinct from *Rhododendron javanicum*, which is also a native of the Peninsula.

Rhododendron javanicum, Benn., is based on a plant found in Java by Dr. HORSFIELD, and is figured and described in BENNETT & HORSFIELD'S *Plantæ Javanicæ Rariores* (Tab. xix), and I have what is evidently the same plant from Gunong Hijau in Perak, collected by Mr. CURTIS, but the tube of the flowers is rather shorter and more infundibuliform. The Singapore plant differs from the true *javanicum* in the leaves, which are shorter, thicker and blunter and more conspicuously dotted with glands, and the base of the blade is not narrowed into the petiole, but ends abruptly. The flowers are nodding on rather long pedicels. The tube is very long in proportion to the limb, nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch, the lobes of the limb are short, broad and rounded, about half an inch long. The tube is cylindrical, slightly curved, and when alive grooved at the base, where, as in the Perak plant, it is almost funnel shaped, with very large lobes to the limb. The stamens again are much thinner, the anther only half the size. The style is thick and the stigma large and somewhat trilobed in the Perak plant and in BENNETT'S figure, whereas in our plant the style is thin, with a much smaller more simple stigma. These points are so marked, that it appears to me that the two plants should be specifically separated. It is very possible that the Singapore plant may be identical with *Rh. longiflorum*, Lindl., a plant which has been found in Borneo at sea level by Professor BECCARI, whose description fits it fairly well, but I have not here LINDLEY'S original description of that plant.

Besides this species, there are four other kinds of *Rhododendron* in the Malay Peninsula.

Rh. malayanum, Jack, which is the commonest, occurs on Mount Ophir, Gunong Hijau, and Maxwell's Hill, and in other mountains of the central range, and also in Sumatra, Java and Celebes. It is a straggling plant with small crimson flowers.

Rh. jasminiflorum, Hook., with clusters of white jessamine-like flowers, only known from Mount Ophir.

Rh. Teysmanni, Miq., a yellow flowered plant, grows on Penang Hill. It is an ally of *Rh. javanicum*, Benn., which is the fourth species.

All these grow on the trees as epiphytes, usually at considerable altitudes, *i. e.*, from 2,000 feet upwards.

The only other plant of the order *Ericaceæ* yet recorded from the Peninsula is a *Diplycosia microphylla*, Becc., a remarkable little creeping plant, which appears to be common at high altitudes. It has more of the appearance of one of the bilberry family, with tough, wiry branches, and small oval leaves.

The allied orders of *Vacciniaceæ* and *Epacridæ* are represented respectively, in Singapore, by *Vaccinium malaccense* a bush of considerable size, with pink or white sweet-scented heather bell-shaped flowers, and small eatable black bilberries; and the remarkable *Leucopogon malayanus*, Jack, a large bush with hard, sharp-pointed leaves, very small white flowers, and sweet but very small orange berries. Both grow on sandy ground near Changi towards Tanah Merah, *Leucopogon* forming here dense thickets. Another species of *Vaccinium* also grows in Pekan, with longer and more crimson flowers.

H. N. R.

POGONIA PUNCTATA, BL., IN SINGAPORE.

The genus of orchids *Pogonia* has not hitherto been recorded from the Malay Peninsula, but as the surrounding countries produce a number of species, it is not to be wondered at that at least one kind should occur here. Some months ago, I found in a stream on the western slope of Bukit Timah a small plant of some species of this genus, and by carefully transferring the small tuber with its solitary leaf to the Botanic Gardens, I was able to induce it at last to flower, when it proved to be *P. punctata*, Bl.—a plant obtained by BLUME from the slopes of Mount Pangerang in Java, and figured by